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The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and English language teaching in polytechnic colleges

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ABSTRACT

Many factors have influenced the world of education from the origin of the world. Nothing has revolutionized the field of education changing the structure, dismantling the traditional decorated walls and domes of the system and paving ways for new ways for successful learning like ICT. Students and teachers of all walks of life need to adapt a new education system based on ICT. ICT makes the teachers as updated effective instructors and the students or made access to the real world with the help of ICT the learner-centered education, and situational based approach and blended learning or make possible with the help of ICT. Does ICT has proved to be an effective harbinger of a great revolution in the lives of people.

Keywords— ICT, English language

1. INTRODUCTION

The whole world spins around the ICT. We live in the digital age. And the world witnesses a strong revolution in the quality of lives of the peoples. A fraction of a second without the tools of ICT is unimaginable. The influence of ICT is rampant in all spheres of life. The world of education has been influenced by the revolution in ICT and has provided valuable help in improving the task of the teacher smoothening the course of teaching and learning, thus providing a lifelong learning experience to the students to achieve their goals.

According to an eminent professor of education teachers, what have past experience teach the present students to equip them to meet their future. So a teacher in a polytechnic college should be familiar with modern technology and the way it can be used to teach students. A shunning teacher is a visionless teacher in this regard.

2. WHAT IS ICT?

ICT is a contemporary factor that helps shape the global economy and produce rapid changes in the society. The effectiveness and the functional usage of ICT have been much advocated by the Federal Government of India and the ministers have vowed to take modern ICT facilities even to remote ryots of our country. ICT has changed the paradigm of people in changing the methodologies of learning and communication. For instance, smart board classes, WhatsApp groups, and online courses, have become common in both colleges and schools in our state. They have transformed the nature of education and the traditional role of teachers and students has been changed in the new ICT based –educational system. ICT is basically a technology which is used to collect, store, edit and pass on information in various forms. According to Wikibooks, ICT is a diverse set of technological tools and resources used to communicate and create disseminate, store and manage information. These technologies included computers, the internet, broadcasting technologies and telephoning. The use of computers and the internet is still in its infancy in our country whereas broadcasting technology and telephoning are in abundant. Teachers of English in polytechnic colleges should be familiar with E-learning that uses an information network. The Internet, LAN, WAN and Web-based learning, blended learning and learners centered methodologies.

3. ICT AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

In the prescribed syllabi of polytechnic colleges in Tamilnadu emphasized on imparting LSRW skills. The following ICT Technologies will be of much help to enhance the communication skills of the students which are the ultimate learning outcome of our syllabi.

ICT comprises of the Internet, Intranet, Digital library, Mobile Technology, Social media like Facebook and what's up. Online English courses will certainly make an impact in the realm of student acquisition of English Language and Communication skills.

The teacher is looked upon as a guide, not as an instructor by the present system. Individualized attention is very much possible and designing of new avenues for learning is also possible in the ICT based teaching, learning process. If the polytechnic teachers of English in collaboration with other technical engineering teachers employ the ICT tools the students may come up to reach the required standard by the corporate.

The functions of the ICT in education may be outlined as follows:

1. ICT has replaced the orthodox method of teaching it has become the main medium for teaching and learning.
2. ICT proves to be an effective assisting tool to write assignments, collecting data and search engine for research.
3. Since it adopts learned center approach ICT makes students as an independent learner.
4. ICT helps the teachers to hone their teaching skills to be updated.
5. ICT provides the platform for online discussion and free consultation with subject experts.
6. Learning through Skype is a much-advanced form to learn native speaker's accent.
7. Email and provision for chatting make the real classroom atmosphere both for providers and users.
8. ICT is the only source to run a global varsity by the global teacher to the global students.

4. THE FUNCTIONAL USAGE OF ICT

In the beginning point, the functional usage of ICT to the student community is amazing in general and its role in polytechnic colleges is awesome in particular. ESL/EFL materials are available on YouTube to learn basic English grammar. Secondly, Engvid.com videos are of great help to learn correct pronunciation. Thirdly, writing skills of the polytechnic students will be improved possibly with the help of Purdue varsity language lab. In the final point, student may be motivated to watch Spell Bee on Sony TV channel, live reports of Times Now, Hot Debates on Republic TV and news on BBC, ABC NEWS and so on.

5. CONCLUSION

In the concluding point, teachers who wish to bring drastic changes in the teaching-learning process of English language should apply the principle ICT in the education system. The future teachers should be recruited not only on the basis of academic excellence but also based on the level of the literacy and excellence in ICT. It must be made mandatory. If you do so the whole educational system will dance according to the tunes of visions of the present federal government of India to make our polytechnic college students as dream chasers.

6. REFERENCES

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